

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A dielectric ceramic comprising:
 - a principal component comprising Ba, Ca and Ti and which has a perovskite structure represented by the general formula ABO_3 ;
 - a first additive component comprising R, wherein R is at least one element selected from the group consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu and Y;
 - a second additive component comprising M, wherein M is at least one element selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Co, Fe, Cr, Cu, Mg and V; and
 - a sintering aid,wherein crystal grains of the dielectric ceramic contain Ca, and the intergranular variation in the average Ca concentration within each grain is about 5% or more.
2. A dielectric ceramic according to claim 1, wherein the number of crystal grains in which the intragranular variation in the Ca concentration is about 5% or more to the total number of crystal grains containing Ca is about 10% or more.
3. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2, wherein the Ca content is about 20 moles or less relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .
4. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3, wherein the average grain size of the crystal grains is about $1.0\ \mu\text{m}$ or less.
5. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4, wherein the content of first and second additives is about 0.1 to 10 moles relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .
6. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the Ca content is about 20 moles or less relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .

7. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6, wherein the average grain size of the crystal grains is about 1.0 μm or less.

8. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 7, wherein the content of first and second additives is about 0.1 to 10 moles relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .

9. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the average grain size of the crystal grains is about 1.0 μm or less.

10. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 9, wherein the content of first and second additives is about 0.1 to 10 moles relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .

11. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the content of first and second additives is about 0.1 to 10 moles relative to 100 moles of ABO_3 .

12. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and
a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 11.

13. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and
a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 9.

14. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and
a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 7.
15. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and
a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6.
16. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and
a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5.
17. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:
a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4.

18. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:

a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3.

19. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:

a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2.

20. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising:

a laminate comprising at least three dielectric ceramic layers and at least two internal electrodes which extend along different interfaces between dielectric ceramic layers and which overlap in the lamination direction; and

a pair of external electrodes disposed on external surfaces of the laminate so as to be electrically connected to different internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers comprise a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1.